



First Responder Network Authority Weekly Update to the State and Territory Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) – December 21, 2015

FirstNet News

- The 2016 Consultation Package was sent to all SPOCs today. Regional leads will be in touch soon to set up kick off meetings beginning in January.
- Last week, FirstNet participated in the Utah Governor's Office Meeting with Department of Public Safety and Utah Department of Transportation, the New Hampshire Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) meeting, the Indiana Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) and Integrated Public Safety Commission (IPSC) meetings, the Emergency Communications Preparedness Center (ECPC) Steering Committee Meeting teleconference, a meeting with the Washington DC SPOC, the Inter-tribal Council of Nevada and leadership of its Inter-tribal Emergency Response Commission (ITERC), a Michigan Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network Regional Workshop, the Alaska Governor's Meeting, the Minnesota Statewide Emergency Communications Board (SECB) Meeting, the South Dakota Governance Meeting, a Connecticut Broadband Working Group Meeting and a Passaic County (New Jersey) Public Safety Training and Demonstration. Additional events and details are available under the newsroom tab on our [website](#).
- The next scheduled outreach event is the CTO team's visit to observe the LA-RICS early builder project that will be supporting the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California on January 1, 2016.

News from the PSAC, States and Territories

- FirstNet has been working to update the look, feel, and operation of the FirstNet website. Over the next few months, we will be rolling out several new features designed to make the site more interactive and informative for our stakeholders. One of the first updates will be a new map to replace the one on the consultation page. This map will provide updates on how each state and territory is progressing with respect to its consultation activities. In addition, this map will be "clickable" - in other words, by clicking on a state, the map will take you to a state or territory's individual "FirstNet Engagement Dashboard" page. There, the site will provide up-to-date information about their FirstNet related outreach activities - such as links to the states' websites, SPOC contact information, a list of key meetings with dates, and other resources. We hope you will find this to be an effective tool to help with outreach about FirstNet.
- The National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators (NCSWIC) /SAFECOM Communications Unit (COMU) Working Group is looking for input from SWICs and SPOCs on the Communications Unit (COMU) program in each State. The information will be analyzed by the SAFECOM/NCSWIC Communications Unit working group in the coming months to help ensure that public safety's input in the program is driving policy and any changes, as this is a high priority for public safety stakeholders. Please take a

moment to fill out this survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/COMLSurvey>. Should you have any questions, please contact SAFECOMGovernance@hq.dhs.gov for additional information.

Media Watch

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Traditional Media

Media was heavy this week, with continued coverage of Board meeting decisions and the BYOD policy, as well as new coverage on the RFP bid evaluation process, cyber security, NTIA's new rules about fees, and a PSAC report.

Urgent Communications: PSAC report: Priority, preemption issues on FirstNet likely limited to secondary users, not public safety

<http://urgentcomm.com/public-safety/psac-report-priority-preemption-issues-firstnet-likely-limited-secondary-users-not-pub>

FirstNet LTE sites should provide enough bandwidth capacity to serve the needs of public-safety users in almost all response scenarios, according to findings by a Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) task team studying the topic

Mission Critical Radio Resource: New Hampshire Releases Statewide Public Safety LTE RFP

<http://www.radioresourcemag.com/Features/FeaturesDetails/FID/626>

The state of New Hampshire's Department of Safety released a request for proposals (RFP) for a Long Term Evolution (LTE) network. Proposals from vendors are due Feb. 19. The New Hampshire schedule would award a contract before a state plan is likely to be received by FirstNet, suggesting the state might be planning to opt out of the FirstNet. However, as part of the final legal interpretations issued in October, FirstNet clarified that there is not an "early opt out" option for states. In [interpretation 14](#). A FirstNet spokesman said, "The law, however, lays out a process to ensure that a state makes the most informed decision about RAN deployment. Central to that process, there are two key dependencies that must happen first: award of the FirstNet RFP and delivery of the state plan."

StateTech: First Responders Embrace Apps for Public Safety Communications, BYOD Smartphones

<http://www.statetechmagazine.com/article/2015/12/first-responders-embrace-apps-public-safety-communications-byod-smartphones>

Public safety officials and officers are using apps like BeOn and leaning toward BYOD solutions for FirstNet...Last month, the organization noted in a blog post that many in the public safety community have personal smartphones that run on commercial wireless networks and are interested in accessing the public safety broadband network from their personal phones once the network gets up and running.

Urgent Communications: FirstNet Could Provide Blueprint For Enhancing Advance Threat Defense For Public Safety, Expert Says

<http://urgentcomm.com/cybersecurity/firstnet-could-provide-blueprint-enhancing-advance-threat-defense-public-safety-expert>

Public-safety entities often have mitigated Internet security issues with a trial-and-error approach, but FirstNet has the opportunity to change that approach to an orchestrated defense that will better equip the mission-critical ecosystem in an environment where cyber attacks are imminent, a global security expert said during the recent Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) Emerging Technology Forum in Atlanta.

Web and Social Media

FirstNet social media accounts were active again this week making a big jump in LinkedIn from 1,165 to 1,190 followers. Twitter is now at 2,975 followers; YouTube has 183 subscribers; and Google+ has 59 users.

This week, there were two new blog entries: [NPSBN Interoperability Strategy: Focus on Open Standards for Network Infrastructure & Services; Data Access and Apps](#) and [Social Media 101: Putting It to Work for Your Agency](#), which was reposted from the Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). All blog posts can also be accessed through <http://www.firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog>.